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Representations from the Salt Workers' Production and Sale Society, Marakanam.

* 659 *Q.*—Sri A. RATHINAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Co-operation be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have received representations from Salt Workers' Production and Sale Society, Marakanam, South Arcot district, requesting them to grant special privileges to the Harijans for the production of salt at Marakanam and to stop the system of auctioning salt-producing lands, as the Harijans could not compete with the caste Hindus in bidding; and

(*b*) if so, what action the Government have taken thereon?

The Hon. Sri D. SANJIVAYYA:—"(*a*) Yes, Sir.

"(*b*) The matter is under examination."

Sri A. RATHINAM:—"May I know, Sir, whether the Government would be pleased to assign the waste-lands in Marakanam to the landless poor at least on a co-operative basis for the production of salt?"

The Hon. Sri D. SANJIVAYYA:—"We have referred the matter to the Board of Revenue and we are awaiting the report of the Board. After the report is received by the Government the matter will be considered."

Sri M. JAGANNATHAN:—"Is the Hon. Minister for Co-operation aware of the fact that the District Collector of South Arcot on several occasions has given those salt producing lands to Caste Hindus in spite of the fact that the workers, mainly Harijans, requested the Collector to give the lands to them?"

The Hon. Sri D. SANJIVAYYA:—"I am not aware, Sir, of what the Collector has done."

Sri S. VEMIAH:—"May I know when the report will be received by the Government and how long will it take for the Government to come to a decision in the matter? May I also know whether similar requests have been made from other parts of the district?"

The Hon. Sri D. SANJIVAYYA:—"This request was made about two months ago, Sir."

Toddy Tappers' Co-operative Societies in Nuzvid and Vijayavada taluks.

* 660 *Q.*—Sri T. POTHA RAJU: Will the Hon. the Minister for Prohibition be pleased to state—

(*a*) the total number of applications received in the Nuzvid and Vijayavada taluks in Krishna district for registering the Toddy Tappers' Co-operative Societies;

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(*b*) the total number of applications so far disposed of by the Deputy Registrar of Co-operative Societies, Vijayavada; how many were accepted and how many rejected with grounds of such rejection; and

(*c*) whether it is a fact that the Deputy Registrar of Co-operative Societies, Vijayavada, is delaying the issue of neera licences to the registered societies?

THE HON. SRI V. C. PALANISAMI GOUNDER:—" (*a*) 68 applications were received. Of them, 29 were from the ex-toddy tappers of Vijayavada taluk and 39 from the ex-tappers of Nuzvid taluk.

" (*b*) 20 applications have been disposed of by the Deputy Registrar—15 from Vijayawada and 5 from Nuzvid. Out of 39 applications received from Nuzvid area from 39 villages, the District Prohibition Officer has recommended only 21 villages for the registration of societies and has clubbed all these 21 villages into 15 groups. One Society will have to be registered for each group. The applications in respect of the remaining 18 villages will have to be rejected by the Deputy Registrar, as they were not recommended by the District Prohibition Officer.

" (*c*) No, Sir."

10-20 a.m. SRI T. POTHA RAJU:—" From the information given by the Hon. Minister, it seems that out of 68 applications, only 20 applications have been accepted and registered and out of these 20 applications there still remain many cases where licences have to be given. I would like to know the policy of the Government and whether the Government want this sweet toddy affair should be spread and ex-toddy tappers should be provided with jobs; if so, why should there be such unnecessary delay in the registration and issue of licences and rejection of the application of Co-operative Societies?"

THE HON. SRI V. C. PALANISAMI GOUNDER:—" Sir, at the very outset I should tell the hon. Member that this concession is only an experimental measure. Therefore the Government have to hasten slowly."

SRI S. NARAYANAPPA:—" Sir, may I know whether any representation was received from Guntakal from the ex-tappers for registration and starting of such a society?"

THE HON. SRI V. C. PALANISAMI GOUNDER:—" Notice please, Sir."

SRI M. VEERABHADRAM:—" Sir, may I know whether the Government or the Registrar of Co-operative Societies sent any instructions to the officers concerned to register only such societies as have deposited thousand rupees as share capital?"

THE HON. SRI V. C. PALANISAMI GOUNDER:—" The Government have no information on that subject, Sir."

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Sri K. RAJAGOPALA RAO :—" Sir, may I know whether the Government have received the suggestions of the District Prohibition Advisory Committee regarding delay in issuing licences? "

The Hon. Sri V. C. PALANISAMI GOUNDER :—" No such representation has been received as far as the Government are aware."

Sri G. ANJANEYULU :—" ఈ స్కీము success ఐనదో లేదో మంత్రి గారు చెప్పగలరా? "

The Hon. Sri V. C. PALANISAMI GOUNDER :—" It depends mainly on the attitude of the Opposition, Sir."

Sri G. NAGABHUSHANAM :—" Sir, has any representation been received from Adoni from ex-tappers for opening a Neera depot at Adoni? "

The Hon. Sri V. C. PALANISAMI GOUNDER :—" Notice, Sir."

Sri P. VENKATASUBBIAH :—" May I know, Sir, whether the Government have authorized the Registrar of Co-operative Societies to use his own discretion in registering these societies? "

The Hon. Sri V. C. PALANISAMI GOUNDER :—" Sir, the Government have not issued any such instructions; but Government expect that the Registrar would use his best discretion in the matter."

Sri T. LAKSHMINARAYANA REDDI :—" Sir, what is the reason for not giving this concession to Rayalaseema where thousands of ex-tappers are unemployed and even though there is much possibility of making this scheme successful in Rayalaseema and whether even at this stage the matter would be expedited? "

The Hon. Sri V. C. PALANISAMI GOUNDER :—" Sir, the Government already received adverse remarks about the working of prohibition in Rayalaseema and as I said already this concession is given as an experimental measure. The Government want to go step by step on the success derived.

Sri PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU :—" May I know, Sir, the reasons for rejecting the applications for registering toddy tappers co-operative societies? "

The Hon. Sri V. C. PALANISAMI GOUNDER :—" Sir, many factors have to be taken into consideration, such as the antecedents of the individual, his capabilities and other factors before the officer allows this concession."

Sri S. DEIVASIGAMANY :—" Sir, in view of the fact that Neera is a poor man's beverage, would the Government consider making it freely available to the public and without any restrictions? "

The Hon. Sri V. C. PALANISAMI GOUNDER :—" No, Sir, the Government are very much afraid that it is open for abuse and the working of the Prohibition Act is likely to be endangered, if unrestricted freedom is allowed in this matter."

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SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU :—" Are the Government aware, Sir, that the Prohibition Committee in the Krishna district has expressed against even experimenting on sweet toddy? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" Sir, the discussion is getting expanded, running over the whole policy. The hon. Member who last put the supplementary question knows how generous the Government have been to undertake risks in this matter. We have given quite a number of experimental concessions in regard to the tapping and sale of unfermented toddy, as it is called, in a number of places coming within the purview of the hon. Member and lastly, I may say, in his own constituency. Now, I would like more time to consider how far we can go in this very important matter. It cannot be done in this atmosphere."

Leasing of the lands of the temple in Gudumula Rameswaram in Razole taluk, East Godavari district.

* 661 *Q.*—SRI K. KRISHNA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Religious Endowments be pleased to state whether the temple lands of the temple in Gudumula Rameswaram in Razole taluk in East Godavari district, have been leased out for 99 years and, if so, the extent of the land so leased out, the name of the lessee, the lease amount and the date when the said lease was made out and whether the approval of the Commissioner for Religious Endowments has been given for the said lease and, if so, when? "

THE HON. SRI K. VENKATASWAMI NAIDU :—" No lands belonging to the Gudumula Rameswaram temple have been leased out for 99 years. The other questions do not arise."

SRI K. KRISHNA RAO :—" Is it a fact, Sir, that in many other temples, the lease for 99 years by the trustees to their relatives is becoming a feature? "

THE HON. SRI K. VENKATASWAMI NAIDU :—" No, Sir."

SRI C. V. K. RAO :—" May I know, Sir, if those lands are not leased for 99 years, for how long are they being leased and can the Hon. Minister tell us the period if it is less than 99 years? "

THE HON. SRI K. VENKATASWAMI NAIDU :—" Sir, they are being leased for small periods. But there is one lease for 50 years by the Archaka of the temple."

SRI G. ANJANEYULU :—" అయ్యా, ట్రస్టీలు దేవుడి సొమ్ము కూడా అపహరిస్తూఉంటే మంత్రిగారిని deputation ద్వారా కలుసుకున్నాం. ఎందుకు అశ్రద్ధ చేస్తున్నారో చెప్పగలరా? "

THE HON. SRI K. VENKATASWAMI NAIDU :—" All questions coming to my notice are being carefully enquired into Sir."